

Spanish Brass: Raves from Presenters!

"Spanish Brass put on a wonderful performance for our Los Gatos Concert Series. The show was one of the best we have ever presented. The audience loved them and gave them multiple standing ovations. It was a privilege to have them visit our venue and work with us. We will remember them for a long time."

—Kevin Hayashi, President, Los Gatos Community Concert Association

"Everyone who heard them was completely blown away and elated. They give so much through their artistry and musicianship. Their sound is like no other chamber group that exists. They have transformed not only the *brass quintet* with repertoire, special projects and impeccable artistry, but indeed they have evolved the idea of chamber music itself. Over 30 years of playing together they have become one instrument with five players."

—Merrie Klazek, Professor of Trumpet, University of Victoria (BC)

"Spectacular. SPECTACULAR. One of our top 5 concerts ever. Those guys had the audience in a state of nirvana from the start. Really nice guys, Carlos is great talking with the audience—they jumped out to the reception immediately to meet, greet and sign CDs. We had one of the biggest audiences we've had in a long time, too. As usual, stellar group, but this was truly extraordinary."

—Paul Nitsch, Friends of Music, Charlotte, NC

"Hi Lisa: Thank you so much for bringing Spanish Brass to our series! They're phenomenal (!!!) - and . . . an absolute joy to work with - perfect gentlemen with beautiful spirits! . . . I would be happy to tell anyone that they're exceptional artists who also have the unique gift of being outstanding entertainers. Our patrons were absolutely ecstatic for them and we had huge numbers asking when Spanish Brass were coming back. I can't wait to have them back in a few seasons with a fiery Latin program."

—Kelly Garrison, Da Camera Society, Los Angeles

"It was a great few days with great guys. Great school show . . . great master class . . . great public concert. Great party at the Foreman house. Great hang at the pub after the concert. Having them with us was a real pleasure." —George Foreman, University of Georgia

"The concert tonight was a big success. I've decided that Spanish Brass is my favorite brass group! Wonderful musicality as well as fine technique. I love their repertoire choices and how those choices give them the opportunity to show off a rich palette of colors and techniques. True musicians in every sense. Outreach was wonderful, very positively received."

—Susan Sturman, Corpus Christi Chamber Music Society

"Carlos and the guys were amazing! I was a little apprehensive that the altitude and size of the space would be a challenge but they adapted really well and certainly won the audience over with their wit and professionalism! The feedback has been fantastic. Great guys!"

—Duncan Horner, Vilar Center for the Performing Arts, Beaver Creek, CO

"They were absolutely wonderful! I loved that they don't 'dumb down' for children, but still can keep the kids rapt. So many of the kids had never heard a brass quintet (even the Principal called it a "Brass Band".) I was over the moon and am so grateful to you. It was a reminder of why we do this! Wish you could have seen the kid's faces!"
—Kathy Judd, Executive Director, Washington Conservatory

"It was an absolute delight having Spanish Brass here at Luther. They held two great outreach activities, at the local high school with the 103 member band and then with a Luther College brass quintet. The latter was very well attended and it was evident even to me that the student ensemble benefited from the expertise of Spanish Brass.

The show itself was also very well received and was a great way to kick off our season. We all enjoyed their playing and their humor. The way that they ended the show was the icing on the cake; performing a 'finale' in the lobby . . . There was a nice mix of ages in the audience; 25 from the high school band, 150 Luther students with the rest being faculty, staff and community members."

—Paul Atkins, Luther College, Decorah, IA

"They were incredible. Chano was a force unto himself. And [percussionist] Jose Luis Zorilla was the ultimate surprise, for his playing, his charisma . . . The entire audience knew they were in the presence of greatness. All—universally—realized that they had heard the best and were thrilled to have done so . . . This program is for any organization that wants to give its audience a taste of many genres or new genres or the absolute best of whatever genre. If anyone needs convincing, have them contact me. I, and the many people who still speak to me about it, found this to be a transformational experience, one that remains vivid and that I want the entire US to share!"

—Julie Williamson, Martha/Mary Yamaha Concerts, Miami

[Program with flamenco-jazz piano legend Chano Dominguez and percussion]

"The Spanish Brass concert was packed and rapturously received. And many in the audience seemed to be newcomers to our series, always a plus. In addition to the warm response of the audience, we sold many more CDs than usual!" —Marietta von Bernuth, Chamber Music Society of Utica

"The concert was fantastic. We loved it. And the piece with the kids was especially nice. Those guys are so kind and talented and I enjoyed meeting them and working with them."

—John Atteberry, Thomas Jefferson School, Joplin, MO

"The audience loved them. And I want particularly to say how very good they were with the students at the workshop. I'm sure the kids will remember that experience the rest of their lives."

—Fran Madachy, Neskowin (OR) Chamber Music

"The concert [with Tim Tuller, organist of Jacksonville cathedral] was fabulous—everyone raved about it, and rightly so. The combo of organ with the brass was exquisite, and of course the guys were great. I look forward to hearing the quintet during the church service tomorrow, and of course, the master class on Monday."

—Kathy Wallis, Beaches Fine Arts Series, Jacksonville, FL

"Our audience loved them! They were not only great musicians but such nice people.

Carlos stayed at our house and it was great getting to know him. We are ready to go to Valencia!"

—Judy Baxter, Grand Concerts, Tabernash, CO

"We couldn't be happier with both the concert and residency by Spanish Brass. They far surpassed our expectations for their concert performance and for being so caring with our students . . . the audience loved each piece, applauding much longer and louder than at other similar concerts we have sponsored. I could tell the audience was in love with them. I am sure we will have them back again!

—Don Sparhawk, Center Stage at Brigham Young University-Idaho.

"The residency with Spanish Brass was a fantastic success! They really did great work with our students and were so generous with their time. The students will be excited and motivated for weeks to come as a result of this event." —Dr. Bryce L. Mecham, Brigham Young University-Idaho

"Last evening was a wonderful concert. It was one of the best attended in three seasons. The Spanish Brass presented a brilliant program encompassing music of so many genres and styles. Our audience was entranced and delighted. They gave the group a standing ovation and called for two encores. Cheers also to this brilliant work they do in the schools. We had the group present concerts at two schools on the San Carlos Apache Reservation and they had the kid's attention throughout. Great musicians and great teachers. Carlos is a great moderator of the program. He easily adapts to the audience. We will keep them on our 'bring back' list." —Jack Kuluk, Gold Canyon (AZ) Arts Council

"Spanish Brass was another home run for us on both fronts. Their school residencies were very well done and appreciated by our schools. The evening performance was one of the best attended we've had in quite a while. Standing ovation. These guys were awesome."

—Tom Green, Gila Valley Arts Council

"What amazing brass players . . . they were just terrific . . . They were fabulous . . . and got a RAVE review . . . And I'll send a copy to you. Such fun . . . too . . . Soooo good."

—Lee Dougherty Ross, The Artist Series of Sarasota

"I can easily speak for myself and others to say that Spanish Brass was highly successful in every aspect: concert; pre-concert reception; post-concert dining; master class; post-master class lunch. Artistically, they are superb -- most certainly. They handled the master class with great skill and care. Personally, they are delightful in conversation and demeanor. We here totally enjoyed the guys. They seemed to enjoy being here: part of their charm!" —Joelle Bedwell, Central Texas Orchestral Society

"We had a new record audience attendance for Coastal Concerts. They sold 38 double CD's. Standing ovation! What a show! Thanks!" —Gavin Braithewaite, Coastal Concerts, Lewes, DE

"It is too bad that I can't include sound effects with this e-mail because if I could you would hear three standing ovations which had whistles and shouts of Bravo! The audience loved them. And so did !!!! These guys are not

only very accomplished musicians they are great entertainers. People were asking when we can have them back! There were a lot of smiles on people's faces as they left the auditorium. It was a wonderful evening of music with a warm connection between the audience and the members of Spanish Brass. BRAVO!!!!" —Leo McCarthy, EMMA Concert Association, St. Augustine, FL

"What a fabulous concert the Spanish Brass gave us yesterday!! We received such wonderful feedback after the concert and at the reception. People were just buzzing and wondered where we found such an amazing group. Their selections were excellent and showed such virtuosity and range. They were both very professional and engaging. The audience was enraptured. If this was any indication of the caliber of your next three groups, we'll have a phenomenal season---thank you so much."

—Janet Moore, Utica Friends of Chamber Music

"The Outreach concert was fabulous . . . They were outrageous. They had a 'bossa nova' dance contest on stage and gave a lesson on a fugue with the individuals who played the theme stepping forward and doing a little dance each time they had the melody. I invited all of our Spanish classes and also our English as Second Language classes. They were extremely appreciative of the opportunity. My music and art teachers were overwhelmed at the level of musicianship! What a treat."

—Carmela Brow, Utica Friends of Chamber Music

"The audience loved them. They were funny, charming and played the daylights out of their repertoire. I think they had a good time as well. They sold a lot CDs which is a great thing."

—Marty Merkley, Chautauqua Institution

"The performance was outstanding. This is really one of the best brass quintets in the world. Our audience gave them 2 standing ovations"—Joe Ray, Oklahoma State University

"Spanish Brass is delightful, entertaining and consummate musicians. Their ability to connect with the audience made the show all the more enjoyable." —C.J. Walters, University of Nevada, Reno

"The guys were truly amazing, and the opportunity to have them here was extraordinary!! The concert exceeded all expectations - a full house, standing room only! The music was AMAZING, and the energy in the room was electric. As Carlos put it, 'I don't know if we actually played better, but with an audience like that you feel like you play better!' They really put on a spectacular show!

The Master Class at NMSU was well attended and went over exceptionally well.

We also enjoyed the chance to spend quite a bit of time together at meals out, supper in our home, some sight-seeing, etc. . . . I can't thank you enough for sharing them with our community - a delightful few days, wonderful new friends, and a real 'feather in the cap' of our series!"

—Barbara Toth, Mesilla Valley Musical Arts, Las Cruces, NM

"The concert tonight was simply the best. We had a nearly packed house . . . The quintet was spectacular in their precise playing (from pianissimo to very powerful fortissimo) and their professional, respectful presentation. And the program was so well engineered. From J.S. Bach to French and Spanish music to American classic jazz to an encore of a Dixieland version of the gospel tune, 'Just a Closer Walk' which left the audience on their feet for a second time. They are stud players and true professionals. Carlos did an exceptionally good job of introducing their selections. It was simply a super night . . .

Their outreach was superb, performing choreographed numbers that the 2nd & 3rd graders really got into. The kids clapped rhythmically when appropriate and cheered robustly after the program. One class stayed behind to have their picture taken with the group. You have a real winner in them."
—Karnar Trethaway, Tri-City Concert Association, Yuba City, CA

"Excelente!!! Fabulous musicians and wonderful people. Lovely lovely concert. Many thanks once again!"
—Michael Curry, Director, The American Theatre/Hampton Arts, Hampton, VA

"They were real pros. The programming was excellent. Very difficult material well played. I felt they gave us their all . . . They were definitely a crowd pleaser. The fellow doing the announcing had the audience charmed."
—Sam Kamilos & Dorothy Alden, Sacramento Community Concert Association

"They were fabulous. We had a much bigger turnout than I expected and the audience loved them. A great way to start a season." —Tom Geballe, Hawaii Concert Association

"They were fun! Audience got a big kick out of them. Got an email from the music teacher at Kamehameha school saying the ed. service was 'awesome'! One of the music faculty members said the students that attended the concert are still talking about it and the tech crew said how nice they were and how they appreciated the work they did." —Judy Wakely, Hawaii Concert Association

"Their ed services were wonderful. One group gave them a standing ovation. The evening audience loved their music, showmanship, and delightful commentary. Many thanks for all the work it took to get them here."
—Janet L. Coburn, Kahilu Theatre, Hawaii

"A great success. The audience loved them; good musicians and very entertaining. We had a good turnout, especially considering that on the same night was the Presidential debate on TV."
—Ludwig Brunner, St. Bonaventure University, NY

"It was great! The audience loved them. And we had some pretty interesting conversation at the reception afterwards. Thanks for bringing them to my attention."
—Dr. George Reeke, Rockefeller University, NYC

"Absolutely superb. We had an almost sold out crowd . . . the audience was VERY appreciative of the Brass's performance. A night to remember!"
—Steve Tolbert, Coastal Concerts, Lewes, DE

"They were fantastic, and very nice people, also. It was a great visit and concert."
—David Seaton, St. Pauls School, Concord, NH